

NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT



Office of Public Information

Contact: Janice Walker | (402) 471-3730 www.supremecourt.ne.gov

October 6, 2008

AMENDED PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Judicial Resources Commission will hold its annual meeting pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 24-1205 to determine whether (1) a new judgeship is appropriate in any judicial district or a reduction in judgeships is appropriate in any judicial district, or (2) the judicial district boundaries or the number of judicial districts should be changed for the district or county courts. The Commission shall also examine current caseload statistics and make any appropriate recommendations for the more balanced use of existing judicial resources.

The Commission will also discuss the following:

- (1) The July 29, 2008, letter from Juvenile Court Judge Vernon Daniels of the Separate Juvenile Court for Douglas County requesting an additional juvenile court judge.
- (2) The August 1, 2008, letter from Presiding County Court Judge Jeffrey J. Funke of the 2nd Judicial District requesting that an additional county judgeship be created in the 2nd Judicial District.
- (3) The September 5, 2008, letter from Presiding District Judge Randall L. Rehmeier of the 2nd Judicial District requesting the addition of another district judge in the 2nd Judicial District.
- (4) The September 5, 2008, letter from District Judge Paul D. Merritt, Jr., of the 3rd Judicial District requesting the addition of another district judge in the 3rd Judicial District.
- (5) The September 22, 2008, letter from County Judge Susan I. Strong, requesting the addition of another county judge in the 3rd Judicial District.
- (6) The three proposals set out in the September 25, 2008, letter from County Judge Patrick R. McDermott of the 5th Judicial District. The proposals are: (1) move Saunders County with its county judge to the 2nd Judicial District; (2) move Colfax County with its county judge to the 6th Judicial District; and (3) creation of a mega-district in northeast Nebraska.

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Any member of the public is entitled to attend the Nebraska Judicial Resources Commission hearing in Room 1524 of the State Capitol, Lincoln, Nebraska, and present, either orally or in writing, any pertinent information concerning the existence of a judicial vacancy.

The hearing is scheduled for Thursday, October 16, 2008, at 9:30 a.m., central time. The hearing will be held via video conferencing from the State Capitol Building, Room 1524, Lincoln, Nebraska, and will include participation from the Panhandle Research & Extension Center, 4502 Ave. I, High Plains Room in Scottsbluff, Nebraska; from the State Office Building, Rm. 207, 2nd Floor, 1313 Farnam Street, in Omaha, Nebraska; and from the Hastings Public Library, 2nd Floor, 517 W. 4th St., in Hastings, Nebraska.

Following the hearing, the commission will make a recommendation to the Legislature of its determination.

Commission members are:

Supreme Court Justice Michael McCormack, Chairperson	
Alan L. Brodbeck, O'Neill	Robert P. Chaloupka, Scottsbluff
Robert B. O'Neal, Papillion	Riko E. Bishop, Lincoln
Thomas F. Hoarty, Omaha	Ronald Furse, Aurora
Jolanda J. Kuzma, Lincoln	Nicole R. Neesen, Omaha
Jane Morgan, Gordon	Mark M. Sipple, Columbus
Gerald E. Moran, Omaha	Robert J. Parker, Hastings
Margie A. Smith, Bellevue	Patricia McQuillan, Greeley
Sharlon Rodgers, Omaha	D. Paul Hartnett, Bellevue

For special accommodations relating to the Americans with Disabilities Act, please call (402) 471-3730. For persons with hearing impairments, please call the Nebraska Relay System at 711.

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